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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Manabu OUMI et al.

Serial No. 09/581,602 : Group Art Unit - 2653

Filed: August 18, 2000 : Examiner - Bach Q. Vuong

For: INFORMATION REPRODUCING APPARATUS, INFORMATION

RECORDING APPARATUS, INFORMATION MEDIUM,

INFORMATION REPRODUCING

METHOD AND INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD USED

IN INFORMATION REPRO-DUCTION AND RECORDING

UTILIZING NEAR-FIELD LIGHT

RECEIVED

APR 2 2 2004

Technology Center 2600

: Docket No. S004-4005(PCT)

MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated March 22, 2004, applicants amend their application as follows:

MAILING CERTIFICATE ON LAST PAGE